Kochi architecture student wins the 28th Charles Correa Gold Medal – presented in Mumbai on 22 Oct

Sports, Governance, Health & Awards · 23 October 2026 · https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/current-affairs-english/2026/10/23



News

The 28th Charles Correa Gold Medal of the Charles Correa Foundation (CCF) was presented in Mumbai on 22 Oct 2026 to an architecture student from Kochi. The winning undergraduate thesis: 'Energy Commons: Reimagining energy infrastructure as a place for civic engagement' – reimagining energy infrastructure as a space for public participation. Prize – the gold medal and ₹25,000. Theme for 2025–27: 'Equitability through Design'.

Key facts

Medal	28th Charles Correa Gold Medal; ₹25,000
Presented	22 Oct 2026 – Mumbai
Thesis	'Energy Commons' – energy infrastructure as a civic space
Organiser	Charles Correa Foundation (CCF); started by Correa in 1998
Eligibility	Final-year UG students of COA-approved colleges – solo thesis; all-India since 2022 (earlier only Mumbai & Goa)
Theme	Equitability through Design (2025–27)

Background

- Charles Correa (1930–2015): born in Secunderabad; studied at the University of Michigan and MIT. Known for 'open-to-sky' spaces, local materials and housing for the urban poor. Chief Architect of Navi Mumbai (1970–75); Chairman, National Commission on Urbanisation (1985).
- Works: Mahatma Gandhi Sangrahalaya, Sabarmati Ashram (Ahmedabad); MP Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Bhavan), Bharat Bhavan (Bhopal); Jawahar Kala Kendra (Jaipur); National Crafts Museum, British Council (Delhi); Kanchenjunga Apartments (Mumbai). Honours: Padma Shri (1972), RIBA Royal Gold Medal (1984), Praemium Imperiale (1994), Aga Khan Award (1998), Padma Vibhushan (2006).
- Regulation: the Council of Architecture (COA), set up under the Architects Act, 1972, is the statutory body regulating architectural education and practice and registers architects. The Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) is a professional association.

Tamil Nadu link: Robert Fellowes Chisholm, pioneer of Indo-Saracenic architecture in Madras, designed the Revenue Board building at Chepauk Palace (1871), the Senate House of the University of Madras (1874–79) and Presidency College (1865–70). The University of Madras itself was founded in 1857.

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